

Amendments to the Abstract

Please **amend** the Abstract to read.

-- The present invention relates to soft-decision decoding of Reed-Solomon product codes. According to the invention, a method for error correction of an encoded data stream comprises the steps of:

- saving the demodulated data stream in an input buffer 2;
- performing a first correction process on-the-fly in the input buffer 2;
- transferring the data to an external SDRAM 3 after correction;
- copying a data frame from the external SDRAM 3 to an embedded SRAM 4;
- starting a multipass correction in the embedded SRAM 4; and
- copying the corrected data frame back from the embedded SRAM 4 to the external SDRAM 3. --